
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 274 Session of
2018

INTRODUCED BY SCAVELLO, FARNESE, DINNIMAN, BROWNE, BREWSTER,
SABATINA, GREENLEAF, BARTOLOTTA, EICHELBERGER, SCHWANK,
FONTANA, MENSCH, WARD, RESCHENTHALER, RAFFERTY, TARTAGLIONE,
COSTA, KILLION, GORDNER, AUMENT, VULAKOVICH AND HUGHES,
FEBRUARY 6, 2018

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, FEBRUARY 6, 2018

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of March 2018 as "Problem Gambling
2 Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania and recognizing the month of
3 March 2018 as "National Problem Gambling Awareness Month."

4 WHEREAS, Individuals across the country and in this
5 Commonwealth enjoy the entertainment and recreational aspects of
6 legalized gambling; and

7 WHEREAS, For some individuals and families, gambling becomes
8 an issue affecting and disrupting the lives of these individuals
9 and their families; and

10 WHEREAS, The National Council on Problem Gambling (NCPG)
11 reports that 2% to 3% of the United States population, or
12 between 6 million and 9 million Americans, will have a gambling
13 problem in any given year; and

14 WHEREAS, Problem gambling is a public health issue affecting
15 individuals of all ages, races and ethnic backgrounds in all
16 communities and has a significant societal and economic cost;
17 and

1 WHEREAS, Problem gambling is treatable, and treatment is
2 effective in minimizing the harm to individuals, families and
3 society as a whole; and

4 WHEREAS, Only a limited number of individuals affected by
5 problem gambling seek treatment options and utilize existing
6 problem gambling programs; and

7 WHEREAS, Numerous individuals, professionals and
8 organizations have dedicated their efforts to public awareness
9 of problem gambling and the availability and effectiveness of
10 treatment to address this health issue; and

11 WHEREAS, The NCPG is coordinating the annual "National
12 Problem Gambling Awareness Month" campaign during March 2018 to
13 educate the public about the impact of problem gambling and the
14 availability of treatment options for this health issue;
15 therefore be it

16 RESOLVED, That the Senate designate the month of March 2018
17 as "Problem Gambling Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania and
18 recognize the month of March 2018 as "National Problem Gambling
19 Awareness Month"; and be it further

20 RESOLVED, That the Senate urge the Pennsylvania Gaming
21 Control Board to continue its outreach efforts and to work with
22 the Pennsylvania gaming industry to develop and implement
23 problem gambling programs and further promote community-based
24 programs in this Commonwealth; and be it further

25 RESOLVED, That the Senate urge the Department of Drug and
26 Alcohol Programs in conjunction with the Pennsylvania Gaming
27 Control Board and individuals, professionals and organizations
28 dedicated to public awareness and treatment of problem gambling
29 to jointly create, develop and promote public awareness
30 campaigns regarding the recognition and prevention of problem

1 gambling; and be it further

2 RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize that problem gambling is
3 a public health issue impacting residents in this Commonwealth
4 in a harmful way that needs to be addressed in a reasonable and
5 responsible manner; and be it further

6 RESOLVED, That the Senate urge all the residents of this
7 Commonwealth to learn more about problem gambling and the
8 programs available to help individuals and their families who
9 have been adversely affected by this issue.